Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 001056

62.

ORIGIN XMB-07

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 AS-01 AID-20 CIAE-00 COME-00

EB-11 FRB-02 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 TRSE-00 OPIC-12

SPC-03 CIEP-02 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01 DODE-00 PA-04

USIA-15 PRS-01 /108 R

66613

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STATE/EB/IFD/ODF: EMLINTON

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R 032222Z JAN 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

UNCLAS STATE 001056

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: APUB CG

SUBJECT: PRESS RELEASE ON EXIMBANK LOAN TO ZAIRE

FOLLOWING IS FINAL TEXT OF EXPORT-IMPORT BANK RELEASE ON THE DIRECT LOAN OF \$6.3 MILLION TO SOCIETE NATIONAL D'ELECTRICITE (SNEL), RELEASE IS SCHEDULED FOR ANNOUNCEMENT HERE IN WASHINGTON, D.C. FOR A.M. PAPERS, TUESDAY, JANUARY 15, 1974.

QUOTE: EXIMBANK SUPPORTS \$14 MILLION SALE OF U.S. EQUIPMENT FOR HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT IN ZAIRE

TO HELP FINANCE A \$14 MILLION SALE OF HYDRAULIC TURBINE-GENERATOR SETS AND ACCESSORY EQUIPMENT TO ZAIRE, THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE EXPORT-IMPORT BANK OF THE UNITED STATES HAS AUTHORIZED A DIRECT LOAN OF \$6.3 MILLION TO FINANCE 45 PERCENTOF THE U.S. COSTS AND A FINANCIAL GUARANTEE OF A LOAN OF \$6.3 MILLION FROM UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 02 STATE 001056

EQUIBANK, FORMERLY KNOWN AS WESTERN PANNSYLVANIA NATIONAL BANK

OF PITTSBURGH, TO FINANCE ANOTHER 45 PERCENT OF THE U.S. COSTS, ACCORDING TO EXIMBANK'S VICE CHAIRMAN WALTER C. SAUER. THE BORROWER, SOCIETE NATIONAL D'ELECTRICITE (SNEL), WILL MAKE CASH PAYMENT OF THE BALANCE OF 10 PERCENT OR \$1.4 MILLION. EXIMBANK IS ALSO PROVIDING A FINANCIAL GUARANTEE OF A LOCAL COST LOAN OF \$2.1 MILLION. SNEL WAS ESTABLISHED IN MAY 1970, AND IS WHOLLY-OWNED BY THE REPUBLIC OF ZAIRE. IT PURPOSE IS TO UTILIZE WATER OF THE ZAIRE RIVER FOR THE PRODUCTION OF ELECTRIC POWER, AND IT WILL BECOME THENATIONAL ELECTRIC UTILITY OF ZAIRE.

THE FOUR GENERATORS AND ACCESSORY EQUIPMENT ARE TO BE SUPPLIED BY WESTINGHOUSE ELECTRIC CORPORATION, THE PHASE ONE OF THE INGA II HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT WHICH IS BEING DEVELOPED IN TWO PHASES. POWER TO BE GENERATED BY INGA II WILL BE TRANSMITTED PRIMARILY VIA AN EXTRA HIGH VOLTAGE DIRECT CURRENT TRANSMISSION LINE TO SHABA, 1100 MILES TO THE SOUTEAST OF KINSHASA, FOR USE IN MEETING THE INCREASING DEMAND FOR POWER WHICH WILL BE CREATED BY THE EXPANSION OF THE COPPER INDUSTRY IN THAT REGION.

THE LOANS ARE TO BE REPAID IN 24 SEMIANNUAL INSTALLMENTS BEGINNING FEBRUARY 10, 1978, WITH EXIMBANK'S LOAN OF \$6.3 MILLION TO BE REPAID OUT OF THE LAST 12 INSTALLMENTS WITH INTEREST AT AN ANNUAL RATE OF 6 PERCENT ON OUTSTANDING BALANCES. REPAYMENT OF ALL LOANS IS TO BE GUARANTEED BY THE REPUBLIC OF ZAIRE. UNQUOTE RUSH

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: n/a Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 03 JAN 1974 Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: n/a Disposition Approved on Date: Disposition Authority: n/a Disposition Case Number: n/a

Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:

Document Number: 1974STATE001056
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00 Drafter: AMOHANIAN Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: N/A Errors: N/A Film Number: n/a From: STATE

Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path:

ISecure: 1

Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740163/aaaachxx.tel

Line Count: 85 Locator: TEXT ON-LINE

Office: ORIGIN XMB

Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED Original Handling Restrictions: n/a Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2

Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a Reference: n/a Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: WorrelSW

Review Comment: n/a Review Content Flags: Review Date: 11 SEP 2002

Review Event:

Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <11 SEP 2002 by daviscw>; APPROVED <15-Nov-2002 by WorrelSW>

Review Markings:

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier: Review Referrals: n/a Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: PRESS RELEASE ON EXIMBANK LOAN TO ZAIRE FOLLOWING IS FINAL TEXT OF EXPORT-IMPORT BANK RELEASE ON THE DIRECT

TAGS: APUB, CG To: KINSHASA

Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005